

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 17 and 19-27 are pending, with claims 1, 2 and 7-9 being independent. Claims 5, 6, 11-16 and 18 have been cancelled, and claims 1, 2 and 7-9 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification at least in *Embodiment Mode 1*, and FIG. 1A and its related text, including page 7, lines 9-14 of the application as filed. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-4 and 21-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Office Action stated that the "separation layer" is unclear in claims 1 and 2. Without submitting to the propriety of the rejection, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to remove "a separation layer." For at least these reasons, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 2, and their dependent claims, should be withdrawn.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 17 and 19-26 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5, 7, 10-12, 15, 16 and 22-27 of co-pending Application No. 10/577,648 in view of Romankiw (U.S. Patent No. 3,971,710). Applicants request that the double patenting rejection be held in abeyance at least until all of the claims have been found to be otherwise allowable.

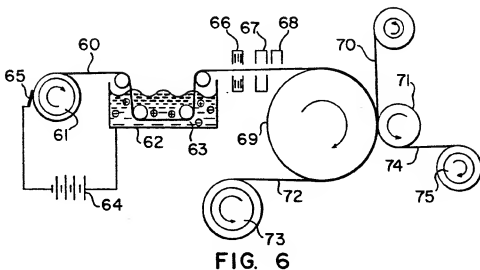
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 17 and 19-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenfeld (U.S. Patent No. 5,156,720) in view of Faris (U.S. Patent No. 5,096,520), Allen (U.S. Patent No. 6,057,961), Holley (U.S. Patent No. 6,174,578) and

Romankiw. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection at least because neither Rosenfeld, Faris, Allen, Holley, Romankiw, nor any proper combination of the five describes or suggests that "the first substrate is a glass substrate," as recited in claim 1.

Rosenfeld describes a process for producing films having layers that are formed by vapor deposition techniques (Rosenfeld: Abstract, cols. 1:8-12, 2:30-48). The Office asserts that Rosenfeld describes a method of producing vapor deposited films in col. 4:35-39, where the method includes providing a first substrate of foil, sheet, or a plate of an inexpensive co-anodizable metal, such as aluminum. The Office also asserts that Rosenfeld describes in col. 4:40-43 a deposition of a valve metal layer by sputtering, evaporation, etc. onto the substrate. However, Rosenfeld fails to describe or suggest that "the first substrate is a glass substrate," as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Rosenfeld could not describe or suggest that "the first substrate is a glass substrate," as recited in claim 1, at least because the deposition techniques described in Rosenfeld would not permit an application of a first substrate made of a solid material, such as glass, to a metal substrate. For example, Rosenfeld describes and suggests an apparatus for producing a valve metal layer in FIG.6 (reproduced below), including a payout roll 61, which is slowly rotating in the direction of the arrow (Rosenfeld: col. 7:27-49).



Rosenfeld describes that an aluminum foil 60 having a tantalum coating is fed from the payout roll 61, and a coated film on the aluminum foil 60 passes around a heated drum 69 where it contacts a heat-sealable plastic substrate 70 between the drum 69 and the counter drill roll 71 (Col. 7, lines 27-49). Therefore, at least because Rosenfeld describes having a foil 60 and a flexible plastic substrate 70 that are bent and turned as they pass between the drum 69 and various rolls 71, 73, 75, Rosenfeld would not permit an application of a first substrate made of a solid, rigid material, such as glass, to a metal substrate.

Faris, which is cited in the Office Action as describing the second substrate and a technique for attaching a support medium to the second substrate by using a peelable adhesive agent, does not remedy the failure of Rosenfeld to describe or suggest the feature of claim 1 discussed above. In addition, neither Allen, which is cited as describing an adhesive to bond various films, coatings, and fabrics to optical layers; Holley, which is cited as describing an adhesive tape for attaching the support medium; nor Romankiw, which is cited as describing a method of anodizing or oxidizing a metal layer, remedy the failure of Rosenfeld and Faris as discussed above.

Independent claim 7 recites that "the first substrate is a glass substrate," and is allowable over Rosenfeld, Faris, Allen, Holley and Romankiw for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to claim 1. For at least these reasons, the rejection of independent claims 1 and 7, and their respective dependent claims, should be withdrawn.

Claim 27, which depends from claim 1, has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenfeld, Faris, Allen, Holley, Romankiw and Sugimoto (Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-52119). Sugimoto, which is cited as describing a color filter or a color conversion filter, does not remedy the failure of Rosenfeld, Faris, Allen, Holley and Romankiw to describe or suggest the subject matter of claim 1 as discussed above. For at least these reasons, the rejection of claim 27 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 4, 8, 9, 25 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosenfeld, Shimizu (U.S. Patent No. 4,934,791), Allen, Holley and Romankiw. Independent claims 2, 8 and 9 are patentable over Rosenfeld, Allen, Holley and Romankiw for at least the reasons described above with respect to claims 1 and 7. Shimizu, which is cited as describing a color filter, does not remedy the failures of Rosenfeld, Allen,

Holley and Romankiw. For at least these reasons, the rejection of independent claims 2, 8 and 9, and their respective dependent claims, should be withdrawn.

All claims are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this paper. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Dwight U. Thompson/
Dwight U. Thompson
Reg. No. 53,688

Customer Number 26171
Fish & Richardson P.C.
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (877) 769-7945